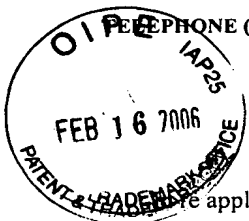


TFW 2828



TELEPHONE (312) 258-5500

**SCHIFF HARDIN LLP**

PATENT DEPARTMENT  
6600 SEARS TOWER  
233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

Re application of:

Bruce A. Seiber

CONF. NO.: 2636

Serial No.:

09/864,990

GROUP ART UNIT: 2828

Filed:

May 24, 2001

EXAMINER: P. Nguyen

For:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES

**RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	*22	MINUS	*26*		( ) X 25.00 (X) X 50.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	* 3	MINUS	3		( ) X 100.00 ( ) X 200.00	\$00.00
Application amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for.				( ) YES ( ) NO	( ) \$150.00 ( ) \$300.00 ONE TIME	\$0.00
				TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT		\$0.00

\* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20 write "20" in this space.

☐ Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ month so that the period for response is extended to \_\_\_\_\_. A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is attached to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account No. 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

• A check in the amount of \$ \_ is attached.

☐ A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ accompanying IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is attached

☐ A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and Petition for Consideration of IDS under 37 CFR 1.97(d) is attached.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

When phoning re this application, please call (312) 258-5774.

SCHIFF HARDIN LLP (Customer Number: 000128)

Patent Department  
BY Trevor B. Joike (25,542)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2006.

Trevor B. Joike  
NAME OF APPLICANT'S ATTORNEY  
Trevor B. Joike  
SIGNATURE  
February 13, 2006  
DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants: B. A. Seiber )

Serial No.: 09/864,990 )

For: ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
INCREASING SPUTTER LIFE  
IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBES )

Filed: May 24, 2001 )

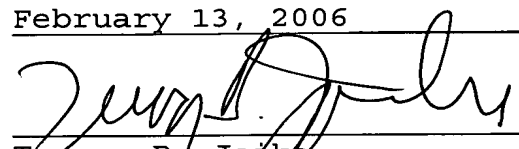
Group Art Unit: 2828 )

Examiner: P. Nguyen )

Confirmation No.: 2636 )

I hereby certify that this  
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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,  
VA 22313-1450 on this date:

February 13, 2006

  
Trevor B. Joike  
Reg. No. 25,342  
Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 18, 2005 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-8, 12, and 14-26 are now in the  
application. Of these claims, claims 1-7 and 15-26 are  
allowed, claim 8 is rejected, and claims 10, 12, and 14  
are objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim  
but are otherwise considered to be allowable.